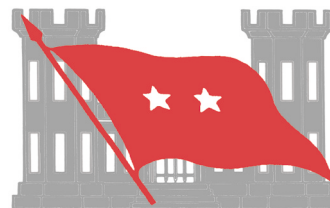


Clear The Way

By Major General R.L. Van Antwerp
Commandant, U.S. Army Engineer School



Now that 2004 is here, we reflect on our accomplishments of the past year. We have activated the largest number of Reserve and Army National Guard soldiers since the Korean War. We helped liberate 23 million people in Iraq and maintain liberation for another 23 million in Afghanistan.

Today in Iraq, almost every city, town, village, and province has a government or a council chosen by and run by local Iraqis. More than 130,000 Iraqi Security Forces are taking responsibility for security for their own country. More than 150 Iraqi newspapers are now in circulation—a free press in that country for the first time in decades. Hospitals, clinics, schools, and universities are open—with an increased load of students. Water, power, and essential services are at or above prewar levels in most of the country. These successes and many more are documented in this issue of *Engineer*.

I am pleased to report that we had a great turnout at the Engineer Warfighter Conference in November, held in conjunction with the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME)/Army Engineer Association (AEA) Regional Meeting in Savannah, Georgia. My thanks go to these two organizations for hosting such a professional event. Thank you also to all who took the time to attend and especially to those of



you who made expert presentations. The joint and multinational perspectives brought home the fact that no matter what uniform we wear, we are all engineers with the same skills and challenges. The conference validated the issues associated with initial lessons learned for engineers and has mapped out the way ahead for us. To truly make these lessons “learned,” we must find solutions before the next war.

We will continue the progress we made at the Warfighter Conference and give an update to the field at the ENFORCE Conference on 26 - 30 April 2004. The theme for ENFORCE 04 is “Forging Our Future—

Shaping Engineers for Joint and Multinational Operations.” Many of you have already expressed an interest in attending, hosting a breakout session, or making a presentation to the group. I encourage you to come prepared to share lessons learned with the rest of the Regiment.

During my recent trip to Iraq, I was impressed with the total professionalism of our engineer soldiers. I had the honor of visiting with soldiers and leaders who are making a difference and preserving our freedoms. I am proud of you! Let me close by remembering those in our Regiment we have lost there since the last issue of *Engineer* was published. As we begin this New Year, let us resolve not to forget their ultimate sacrifice. Essayons!

Sergeant Benjamin Biskie
Captain Christopher Soelzer
Major Christopher Splinter
Specialist Charles Haight
Specialist Curt Jordan
Specialist Cory Hubbell
Specialist Nathan Nakis
Specialist James Wolf
Private Jonathan Falaniko
Specialist Marlon Jackson
Private Algernon Adams
Specialist Raphael Davis
Private First Class Rayshawn Johnson
Private Scott Tyrrell
First Lieutenant Joshua Hurley
Lieutenant Colonel Wayne Kimbrough
Staff Sergeant Eddie Menyweather
Specialist Joseph Norquist
Staff Sergeant Thomas Christensen
Staff Sergeant Stephen Hattamer
Specialist James Chance
Specialist Jon Fettig

5th Engineer Battalion, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri
5th Engineer Battalion, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri
5th Engineer Battalion, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri
14th Engineer Battalion, Fort Lewis, Washington
14th Engineer Battalion, Fort Lewis, Washington
Bravo Company, 46th Engineer Group, Fort Rucker, Alabama
Bravo Company, 52d Engineer Battalion, Fort Carson, Colorado
Headquarters Company, 52d Engineer Battalion, Fort Carson, Colorado
Alpha Company, 70th Engineer Battalion, Fort Riley, Kansas
Alpha Company, 94th Engineer Battalion, Vilseck, Germany
Charlie Company, 122d Engineer Battalion, Graniteville, South Carolina
Bravo Company, 223d Engineer Battalion, Calhoun City, Mississippi
Charlie Company, 299th Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas
Charlie Company, 299th Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas
Charlie Company, 326th Engineer Battalion, Fort Campbell, Kentucky
416th Engineer Command, Darien, Illinois
Charlie Company, 588th Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas
Headquarters Company, 588th Engineer Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas
652d Engineer Company, Ellsworth, Wisconsin
652d Engineer Company, Ellsworth, Wisconsin
Charlie Company, 890th Engineer Battalion, Columbia, Mississippi
957th Engineer Company, Bismarck, North Dakota